

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE RECOGNITION OF SENIOR COGNITIVE HEALTH AS A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE.

WHEREAS, 5.8 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's. The number of older adults with Alzheimer's disease is expected to nearly triple over the next 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Every 65 seconds someone in the United States develops Alzheimer's; and

WHEREAS, Dementia is a general term for conditions that cause loss of memory severe enough that they may impact a person's ability to carry out daily activities. Alzheimer's Disease is a type of dementia that causes problems with memory, thinking, language, and behavior. It may begin with mild memory loss, and symptoms can slowly worsen over time; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's Disease is the 6th leading cause of death. Between 2000 and 2017 deaths from Alzheimer's disease increased 145% nationally, and 157% increase in Idaho; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's and related dementias have wide-ranging impacts not only on those with the disease, their families and caregivers, but also on communities and health-care systems; and

WHEREAS, Nationally, more than 16 million Americans provide unpaid care for people with Alzheimer's or other dementias. These caregivers provide an estimated 18.5 billion hours valued at nearly \$234 billion dollars. In Idaho more than 85,000 caregivers provide an estimated \$1.2 Billion Dollars in unpaid care.

WHEREAS, In 2019, Alzheimer's and other cognitive health issues will cost the nation \$290 billion dollars. By 2050, these costs could rise as high as \$1.1 trillion dollars.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Public Health recognizes Senior Cognitive Health as a Public Health issue and encourages prevention efforts through health education programs and public policy.

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